

Marija Kolega

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*In memoriam*  
MATE RADOVIĆ

(Zadar, 27. srpnja 1974. – Vir, 17. rujna 2018.)  
(Zadar, 27 July 1974 – Vir, 17 September 2018)



Mate Radović nas je iznenada napustio 17. rujna 2018. u obiteljskome domu u Viru. Njegova osobnost i predanost arheologiji ostavile su neizbrisiv trag u Arheološkome muzeju Zadar – Muzeju nin-skih starina, gdje je bio zaposlen od 2006. godine.

Rođen je 27. srpnja 1974. godine u Zadru. Osnovnu školu „Vlado Bagat“ pohađao je u Privlaci, a srednju u Tehničkome školskom centru u Zadru. Studij povijesti i arheologije upisao je na Filozofskome fakultetu u Zadru 1993., a diplomirao je 2002. godine. Bio je pripadnik 112.

Mate Radović suddenly passed away in his family home in Vir on 17 September 2018. His personality and dedication to archaeology left an indelible imprint on the Archaeological Museum Zadar – Museum of Nin Antiquities, where he had worked since 2006.

Born in Zadar on 27 July 1974, he attended elementary school in Privlaka and Trade School in Zadar. He enrolled History and Archaeology at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Zadar in 1993 and graduated from there in 2002. He was

brigade Hrvatske vojske u Domovinskome ratu te je stekao status branitelja. U svome Viru obnašao je dužnost vijećnika u Općinskome vijeću, a u jednome mandatu bio je i njegov predsjednik. Bio je član Hrvatskoga arheološkog društva od 1997. godine.

Znanstveno usavršavanje nastavio je 2004. godine kada je upisao Poslijediplomski magistarski studij „Arheologija istočnog Jadrana“ (grana srednjovjekovna arheologija). Uspješno je obranio sinopsis magistarskoga rada pod naslovom *Starohrvatska groblja od 7. do 12. stoljeća na području sjeverne Dalmacije* (mentor prof. emeritus Janko Belošević). Poslijediplomski doktorski studij „Arheologija istočnog Jadrana“ upisao je 2017. godine, a znanstveno istraživanje fokusirao je na okvirnu temu pod naslovom *Nin i uža okolica od 7. st. do 1669. god. u svjetlu arheoloških nalaza* (mentor prof. dr. sc. Ante Uglešić).

Matu Radovića pamtim kao kolegijalna i stručna suradnika, uvijek spremna i otvorena za sve oblike arheoloških i konzervatorskih obveza koje je donosila struka u gradu Ninu. Posjedovao je neiscrpnu radnu energiju i silnu želju da svaki započeti posao s velikim oduševljenjem privede kraju.

Poznajem ga od njegovih studentskih dana, a još uvijek je živo sjećanje na prvu arheološku kampanju na istraživanju rimskoga hrama u lipnju 1998. godine. Od tada je sudjelovao na brojnim arheološkim istraživanjima u urbanome arealu ninskoga otočića: 2000. godine: lokalitet Kalelarga i Jug ispred i uokolo nadžupne crkve sv. Asela; lokalitet Banovac – rimski mozaik (I. kampanja); 2001. godine: lokalitet Bardelina i Donja vrata; lokalitet Kraljevac (I. kampanja); lokalitet rimski hram; lokalitet Banovac – rimski mozaik (II. kampanja). Kao diplomirani arheolog, postao je vanjski suradnik Arheološkoga muzeja Zadar te od 2002. godine sudjeluje na istraživanjima: lokalitet Plokata u nadžupnome kompleksu crkve sv. Asela; lokalitet Kraljevac (II. kampanja); lokalitet Banovac – rimski mozaik (III. kampanja); 2003. godine: lokalitet Kraljevac (III. kampanja); lokalitet Banovac – rimski mozaik (IV. kampanja); 2004. godine: lokalitet Kraljevac (IV. kampanja); lokalitet Banovac – rimski mozaik (V. kampanja); 2005. godine: lokalitet Sv. Duh; lokalitet Banovac – rimski

a veteran of the Homeland War (a member of the 112<sup>th</sup> Brigade of Croatian Army). In his native Vir he was a town councilor and even served one term of office as the town council president. He had been a member of the Croatian Archaeological Association since 1997.

Taking further training, in 2004 he enrolled in the postgraduate Master's program in Archaeology of Eastern Adriatic (sub-program Medieval Archaeology). His MA thesis was *Old Croatian Graves from the 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Centuries in Northern Dalmatia* (with Professor Emeritus Janko Belošević as his thesis advisor). In 2017 he took up a doctoral study in Archaeology of Eastern Adriatic, with *Nin and Its Immediate Surroundings from the 7<sup>th</sup> century to 1669, in Light of Archaeological Evidence* as his doctoral thesis (and with Professor Ante Uglešić as his thesis advisor).

I will remember Mate Radović as an expert and a friendly fellow-worker, always ready to put his mind to any archaeological or conservationist challenge that he, as a professional, would face in Nin. He brought his prodigious energy to his work and was thrilled to complete every task he had embarked upon.

I'd known him since his student days. I still remember the first archaeological campaign at the ancient Roman temple in June 1998. Since that time he had participated in numerous digs on the island on which the historical core of the town of Nin is located: Kalelarga and Jug sites around the Arch Parish Church of St. Anselm and the Roman mosaic at Banovac site (Campaign I) in 2000; Bardelina and Donja vrata sites, Kraljevac site (Campaign I), Roman Temple, and Banovac site – Roman mosaic (Campaign II) in 2001; Plokata site at the arch parish complex of the Church of St. Anselm, Kraljevac site (Campaign II) and Banovac site – Roman mosaic (Campaign III) in 2002 (as part-time collaborator of Archaeological Museum Zadar upon obtaining his degree in archaeology); Kraljevac site (Campaign III) and Banovac site – Roman mosaic (Campaign IV) in 2003; Kraljevac site (Campaign IV) and Banovac site – Roman mosaic (Campaign V) in 2004; Sveti Duh site and Banovac site – Roman mosaic (Campaign VI) in 2005; and Cemetery site and Banovac site – Roman mosaic (Campaign VII) in 2006. In that period of extensive and dynamic archaeological

mozaik (VI. kampanja); 2006. godine: lokalitet Groblje i lokalitet Banovac – rimski mozaik (VII. kampanja). U tome periodu brojnih i dinamičnih arheoloških istraživanja u Ninu jačao je svoje oduševljenje ninskim starinama, a urođenom je neposrednošću ostvario bliske odnose s terenskom ekipom studenata Odjela za arheologiju Sveučilišta u Zadru. Otvoren i srdačan, postao je prepoznatljiv i prihvaćen u cijelome Ninu. Osim u Ninu, radio je i na sljedećim lokalitetima: Vrsi – Sv. Toma, Starigrad – Sv. Petar, Kruševo – Cvijina gradina, Pakoštane – Crkvina, Vir – Sv. Juraj, Vir – Smratina.

Kao vanjski suradnik Muzeja, sudjelovao je u završnoj fazi stalnoga postava u Muzeju ninskih starina s temom *Kasni srednji i Rani novi vijek*, dovršenoga u kolovozu 2004. godine. Potom je bio uključen u pripremu i postav izložbe *Srednja ulica grada Nina – svjedok vremena: arheološka istraživanja od 2000. do 2004. godine*, autorice Marije Kolege, otvorenu 2005. godine u izložbenome prostoru Muzeja ninskih starina. Posebno je bio angažiran u uređenju spremišta srednjovjekovnih spomenika u Ninu tijekom 2004. i 2005. godine. U razdoblju od 2003. do 2005. godine surađivao je na reviziji arheološke građe koja se tada čuvala u Muzeju ninskih starina, kao i na prijenosu građe koja se privremeno čuvala izvan zgrade Muzeja. Tada je uređeno spremište za sitnu arheološku građu, čime je Mate stekao cjelovit uvid u građu koja se čuva u Ninu.

Na radno mjesto arheologa u Muzeju ninskih starina zaposlio se 30. studenoga 2006. godine, a stručni ispit za kustosa položio je 2008. godine. Bio je član stručnih tijela u Arheološkome muzeju Zadar (Stručnoga vijeća, Upravnoga vijeća) te voditelj Muzeja ninskih starina. Studentsko i pripravničko iskustvo stečeno od 1998. do zaposlenja 2006. godine profiliralo ga je u osobu koja je bila potpuno posvećena arheologiji Nina, rodno-ga Vira i širega zadarskog područja. Bio je voditelj brojnih arheoloških istraživanja na lokalitetima: Banovac, Gornja vrata, Gornji most, Školski vrt, Kandija mala i zidine.

Ostvario je brojne stručne i kolegijalne kontakte s arheolozima u srodnim ustanovama sudjelujući autorskom izložbom *Don Luka Jelić i Nin*, postavljenom 2012. godine u Ninu, u Muzeju grada Kaštela (2013.), Muzeju grada Koprivnice (2014.) i Narodnome muzeju u Labinu (2015.). Sljedeća

excavations in Nin he became more and more enthusiastic about the Nin antiquities. His innate straightforward approach helped him establish close relationships with the field crew consisting of the students of archaeology from the Department of Archaeology of the University of Zadar. His distinctive candid and affectionate nature made him popular in Nin. He also worked at a number of sites outside the town: Vrsi – St. Thomas' Church, Starigrad – St. Peter's Church, Kruševo – Cvijina gradina, Pakoštane – Crkvina, Vir – St. George's Church, and Vir – Smratina.

As the Museum's part-time collaborator he took part in the final stage of the permanent display of the Museum of Nin Antiquities; he was in charge of its *Late Middle Ages and Early Modern Age* segment, completed in August 2004. Then he was involved in preparing the display of *Nin's Main Street – a Witness of Time: Archaeological Excavations from 2000 to 2004*, an exhibition by Marija Kolega organized in the Museum of Nin Antiquities in 2005. He was particularly active in the adaptation of the medieval monuments depot in Nin in 2004 and 2005. Between 2003 and 2005 he collaborated in the reassessment of the archaeological finds in the Museum of Nin Antiquities, while also taking part in moving back inside the Museum the finds temporarily displayed outdoors. This was when the depot for movable archaeological finds was adapted, enabling Mate to obtain a full insight into the Nin Museum holdings.

He started working as an archaeologist in the Museum of Nin Antiquities on 30 November 2006. In 2008, having passed his professional exam, he became a custodian. Over the years, Mate held various positions in Archaeological Museum Zadar: he was a member of the Board of Experts and Governing Board and the head of the Museum of Nin Antiquities. The student-trainee experience acquired between 1998 and 2006 turned Mate into a person fully dedicated to the archaeology of Nin, his native Vir and Zadar with its surrounding areas. He led numerous excavations at the following sites: Banovac, Upper Gate, Upper Bridge, School Garden, Kandija mala and the Town Walls.

He authored the exhibition *Luka Jelić and the Town of Nin*, laid out in the museums in Nin (2012), Kaštela (2013), Koprivnica (2014) and Labin (2015), establishing in the process



izložba *Mještani Nina na fotografijama iz fototeke Arheološkog muzeja Zadar* nastala je u suradnji s Robertom Maršićem, čije je otvorenje 2017. godine dočekano u Ninu s velikim zanimanjem. Napisao je uvodni tekst u katalogu izložbe *Arheološka istraživanja okoliša crkve Sv. Križa u Ninu* Odjela za arheologiju Sveučilišta u Zadru, postavljenu u Muzeju ninskih starina 2013. godine.

Cijeli niz povremenih i tematskih izložbi Arheološkoga muzeja Zadar učestalo je u proteklome razdoblju bio postavljan i u Ninu, a Mate je tada ne-sebično pružao podršku svojim kolegama i suradnicima iz matične ustanove. Iz bogatog muzejskog arhiva izdvaja se izložba *Novija istraživanja Arheološkog muzeja u Zadru 2005. – 2010.* (2011.) na kojoj je sudjelovao donijevši rezultate istraživanja na Banovcu i Kneževoj palači.

Značajan je i opus gostujućih izložbi domaćih muzejskih ustanova, kao Muzeja grada Kaštela (2009.), Muzeja grada Koprivnice (2014.), Hrvatskoga restauratorskog zavoda Ludbreg (2016) i Muzeja hrvatskih arheoloških spomenika u Splitu (2015.). Matina namjera postavljanja i otvaranja tih izložbi u Ninu bila je upoznati i promovirati struku mještanima Nina. Upriličena događanja bila su za Ninjane pravi kulturni izazov, uvijek brojno posjećena i prihvaćena s velikim oduševljenjem.

Zapažena su i njegova sudjelovanja na znanstvenim skupovima i izlaganjima vezanim za rezultate istraživanja Nina i Vira. Na znanstvenome skupu o fra Luji Marunu 2007. godine iznosi temu pod naslovom *Ranosrednjovjekovna groblja nastala uokolo stambenih objekata u Ninu*. Kao član Hrvatskoga arheološkog društva sudjelovao je na više znanstvenih skupova; na skupu u Varaždinu 2010. godine imao je izlaganje na temu *Kneževa palača u Ninu* (u koautorstvu s Majdom Predovan), a na skupu u Malom Lošinj 2012. godine sudjelovao je s temom *Rezultati završne arheološke kampanje na lokalitetu Banovac u Ninu* (u koautorstvu s Marijom Kolegom). Sudjelovao je na međunarodnim znanstvenim skupovima održanima u Hrvatskoj: na 4th International Congress on Underwater Archaeology (2011.) s temom *Waterlogged wood preservation problems: The case of the Mediaeval Boats of Nin* (u koautorstvu s Irenom Radić Rossi i Peterom Fixom); na 3. međunarodnom skupu Dani Stjepana Gunjače 2013. godine s temom *Vir – Smratina: prilog arheološkoj topografiji sjeverne*

professional contacts and an instant rapport with numerous archaeologists in relevant institutions. His next exhibition, *Nin Locals on Photographs from the Photo Archive of Archaeological Museum Zadar*, co-authored with Robert Maršić, opened in Nin in 2017, arousing a great interest in the town. He wrote the introduction to the catalogue accompanying the exhibition *Archaeological Excavations at the Church of the Holy Cross in Nin*, organized by the Department of Archaeology of the University of Zadar and displayed in the Museum of Nin Antiquities in 2013.

Numerous visiting and thematic exhibitions organized by Archaeological Museum Zadar have been displayed in Nin in the past years. Mate selflessly supported and assisted his colleagues and collaborators from the parent body in Zadar. We can single out here the 2011 exhibition *Recent Excavations Carried out by Archaeological Museum Zadar 2005 – 2010* (2011), where the results of Mate's excavations at Banovac site and Rector's Palace were also presented.

Mate also organized many visiting exhibitions from other Croatian museums, including Museum of the Town of Kaštela (2009), Koprivnica City Museum (2014), Croatian Conservation Institute in Ludbreg (2016) and Museum of Croatian Archaeological Monuments in Split (2015). Mate's intention was to promote archaeology among the people of Nin and to inform the locals about it. Every such exhibition was a true cultural challenge and saw a great turnout of enthusiastic audience.

He presented well-received papers at conferences and symposiums on the results of archaeological excavations in Nin and Vir areas. At the 2007 conference on the work of Croatian archaeologist Lujo Marun, he presented his paper *Early Medieval Cemeteries Formed around Residential Buildings in Nin*. In the capacity of a member of Croatian Archaeological Association he attended a number of conferences, including the one in Varaždin in 2010 (where he read his paper *Rector's palace in Nin*, co-authored with Majda Predovan) and in Mali Lošinj 2012 (where he read a paper entitled *The Results of the Final Archaeological Campaign at Banovac Site in Nin*, co-authored with Marija Kolega). He also presented his papers at the international conferences held in Croatia: 4<sup>th</sup> International Congress on

*Dalmacije* (u koautorstvu s Tomislavom Fabijanićem). Na znanstvenome skupu Arheologija istočnog Jadrana, održanom 2013. povodom 50 godina studija arheologije na Sveučilištu u Zadru, sudjelovao je s temom *Dva rimska miljokaza iz Nina* (u koautorstvu s Anamarijom Kurilić). Godine 2015. sudjelovao je na znanstvenome skupu o otoku Viru izlažući na temu *Srednjovjekovni nalazi na otoku Viru* (u koautorstvu s Tomislavom Fabijanićem) i na znanstvenome skupu *Antiquitatis sollemnica – Antidoron* Mate Suić s temom *Nove spoznaje o urbanizaciji antičke Enone* (u koautorstvu s Marijom Klegom).

Napisao je više znanstvenih i stručnih priloga, kao i onih u lokalnim novinama (*Virski list*) čime je aktivno i permanentno sudjelovao na popularizaciji rezultata arheoloških istraživanja Nina i Vira.

Punih dvadeset godina pratila sam njegov rad, a naša je suradnja stalno bila ispunjena razgovorima o struci i novim izazovima na koje je arheologija nailazila u kontekstu kontinuiranoga provođenja projekta obnove grada Nina, zacrtanoga 2000. godine. Stečeno bogato terensko iskustvo planirali smo objelodaniti, konkretizirali smo planove, razradili teme monografija, projekte izložbenih aktivnosti i proslava obljetnica. Nažalost, od svega toga realiziran je samo manji dio, a onaj preostali zauvijek je prekinut Matinim preranim odlaskom.

Underwater Archaeology in 2011 (*Waterlogged wood preservation problems: The case of the Mediaeval Boats of Nin*, co-authored with Irena Radić Rossi and Peter Fix) and 3<sup>rd</sup> Stjepan Gunjača Days International Conference in 2013 (*Vir – Smratina: Toward the Archaeological Topography of Northern Dalmatia*, co-authored with Tomislav Fabijanić). At the 2013 Eastern Adriatic Archaeology conference, commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of archaeology studies at the University of Zadar, he read his paper *Two Roman Milestones from Nin* (co-authored with Anamarija Kurilić). In 2015, he took part in the conference *The Island of Vir (Medieval Finds on the Island of Vir)*, co-authored with Tomislav Fabijanić) and in the conference *Antiquitatis sollemnica – Antidoron* Mate Suić (*New Insights into the Urban Development of Roman Aenona*, co-authored with Marija Kolega).

He wrote a number of scholarly and professional contributions, as well as texts in local papers (*Virski list*), actively and continually popularizing the results of archaeological excavations in Nin and Vir.

I had followed his work and collaborated with him for twenty years. We would always discuss our work and the new challenges archaeology was facing in the context of the continual implementation of the Nin Renovation Project developed in 2000. We planned to translate our rich field experience into monographs, exhibitions and anniversaries. Unfortunately, only a small portion of these plans has been realized and Mate's premature departure put an end to the rest of them.

